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ALL NEW ILLUSTRATED HEROIC ADVENTURE



A WARREN MAGAZINE

T.M.

NUMBER SIX



**SHERLOCK HOLMES
and the
MASTER OF
TIME...**

**...BATTLE
RÖBAR THE
CONQUEROR!**

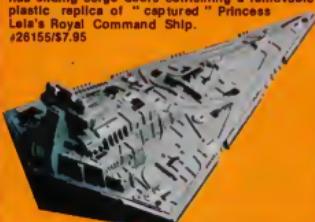


NEW STAR WARS SPACE STUFF!

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The ROOK

NUMBER SIX

DECEMBER 1980

ROOK: MASTER OF THE WORLD 4

The twentieth century was a newborn child when it was christened with its first taste of nuclear devastation. The icy night above the rugged Siberian steppes exploded in unearthly fury as something alien entered the Earth's atmosphere. Shock waves from that awful impact spread to encircle the globe, and to ripple through the spectrum of time to disturb the peaceful slumber of the Rook! Something ancient, alien and deadly had set down. The Earth was threatened with destruction!



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THE VIKING PRINCE 27

The dense dark Scandinavian forest rang with the fearlessly rhythmic hoofbeats of a galloping steed. The frightened rider flew through the night. His burden was precious and about to be abandoned. This was a night for evil deeds. Thus begins the saga of the Viking Prince! Losing his throne before he was old enough to know he had one, losing his father to the treachery of the King's general, losing his mother in wedlock to the treacherous usurper, the Viking Prince is hell-bent on revenge!



VOLTAR: COMES THE ENDTIME 49

The long-prophesied endtime was upon the world! The hordes of the blood thirsty Evil One were set loose across the land ravaging all before them. Only one man could stay such evil. Only one miraculous savior could arrest and end the remaining six plagues that were to face mankind. All looked to Voltar. But the battle-weary general of long dead army was lost! Deep beneath the surface of the Earth, in caverns endless to man, Voltar wandered. Hopeless, ill with the plague, Voltar longed for death!



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THE ISLE OF HAITI! ONCE A ROMANTIC PARADISE, IT IS NOW A JUNGLE OF TERROR, PLAGUE AND DEATH.

HERE, SOARING ABOVE THE TROPICAL FOREST, RESTIN DANE, THE ROOK, IS TORN FROM A MISSION OF MERCY AND RUTHLESSLY INHALED INTO THE MADDENING JAWS OF INSANITY.

The ROOK

W-WHO ARE YOU?
AND WHAT IS THIS
CRAFT?

THIS IS THE WARSHIP OF
ROBAR THE CONQUEROR,
INTRUDER! I AM MASTER
OF THE WORLD!

AND THESE
MEN? WHO ARE
THEY? SURELY NOT
PART OF THIS
DEMONIC CREW?

DOYLE'S THE NAME, SIR!
ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE, THIS
IS MY PROTEGE, MR. JULES
VERNE! AND WE ARE, LIKE YOU,
I FEAR SAY, PRISONERS
OF THIS METAL MADMAN!



THAT MINDLESS THING
IN YOUR MEDICAL ROOM! MY
BROTHER!

AH, MY... "LIBRARY!"
YOU'RE RELATED? PITY.
IT WAS OUT OF MY
HANDS. HIS CURRENT
AFFLICTION---

AFFLICTION? I SAW
THE MONSTROUS SCARS!
HIS SKULL HAS BEEN
OPENED! IT... IT'S
HIDEOUS!

YOU BROTHER HAD A
REMARKABLE INTELLECT,
SIR. I OPENED HIS SKULL
TO FEED UPON THAT
INTELLECT AND TO LEARN
OF THIS HOSTILE, SAVAGE,
BLOODMADDENED PLANET!

HIS BRAIN, YOU MIGHT
SAY, IS MY REFERENCE
LIBRARY!

YOU MUST UNDERSTAND,
I HAD TO DO AS I DID,
SIR! I COULDN'T LET
YOUR BROTHER'S BRAIN
DIE!

HIS BODY CONTRACTED AN
ALIEN DISEASE... OBVIOUSLY
FROM ME! A DORMANT VIRUS
CARRIED IN MY LESS
ROBOTIC PARTS.

HIS BODY LIES DYING, ARTIFICIALLY
SUPPORTED, BUT DYING!
I FEAR THE VIRUS IS SLOWLY ACTING
UP ON MY OWN BODY AS WELL. ALL
TOO SOON, I, TOO, WILL DIE OF IT.
I MOST GREATLY FEAR, BEFORE MY
GREAT WORK IS FINISHED.





MEANWHILE... AND ALMOST EIGHT DECADES LATER, IN A MYSTERIOUS UNDERGROUND CAVERN DEEP BENEATH THE ARIZONA DESERT, AN OLD MAN AND A TIN MAN PONDER EQUALLY PERPLEXING MYSTERIES OF THE PAST!

WHEN I ACCIDENTALLY CRASHED OUR RESCUE MACHINE THROUGH THE GALLERY I NEVER 'SPECTED T'UNCOVER THE LIKES A' THIS! WHATCHA S'POSE IT IS, USELESS?

MY DEAR MASTER BISHOP, MY SCANNERS REFLECT THE INTERNAL CIRCUITRY TO BE THAT OF... A TIME MACHINE!

A TIME MACHINE!? YOU SCRUDGE-BRAINED IDJIT! THAT'S JUST WHAT WE NEED T'GO BACK IN TIME AN' SAVE M'BOY RESTIN!

IT IS COMPRISED OF THE SAME ENGINEERING CHARACTERISTICS FOUND IN THE ALIEN BUILT GALLERY!

THE ALIEN MASTERS, IT SEEMS, ALSO MUST HAVE BEEN ADEPT AT TIME AS WELL AS SPACE TRAVEL!

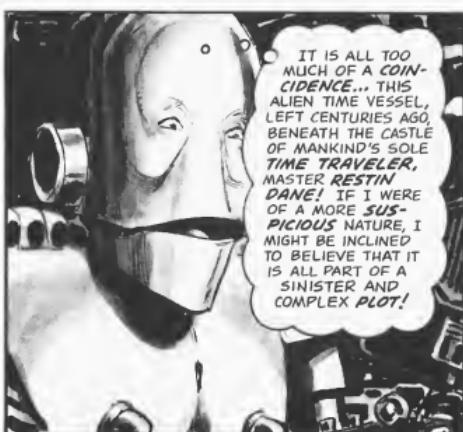
IF 'N IT IS A TIME MACHINE, IT'S THE GRANDADY OF ALL TIME MACHINES, THE BIG KAHUNA... THE KING!

THE KING IT IS, SIR!

IT'S OBVIOUS THAT IN ORDER TO RESCUE MASTER ROOK FROM THE WILD GOOSE CHASE WE SENT HIM ON, THIS KINGLY MACHINE WILL SERVE US WELL.

YOU GET THAT BIG DADDY RIPPIN', TIN MAN... AN' I'LL GO PINPOINT TH' COORDINATES OF M'BOY RESTIN'S TIME MACHINE!

*SEE LAST ISSUE!



AND THAT "TROUBLE," IS CENTERED SMACK IN THE MIDDLE OF A HAITIAN JUNGLE, WHERE FOUR ALMOST CERTAINLY DOOMED MEN ARE SAVED BY A STRANGE CRAFT RENDERING THE SKY IN THE FORM OF A PREHISTORIC MONSTER!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT THING IS, BUT IT'S GOT THE NATIVES SO FRIGHTENED THAT THEY'VE FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT US!

LET'S NOT BLOW OUR GOOD FORTUNE! LET'S GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE WHILE THE GETTINGS GOOD!



A TRAIN ROBBER?! THAT'S WHAT THE WANTED POSTERS CALL ME! BUT I'M STILL A SCIENTIST, BILL! I'M STILL WORKING ON THAT DICARNATHAN SERUM.

HELL, WHEN YOU LEFT THE UNIVERSITY, AFTER I TOOK THE SERUM OUT WEST TO TEST ON PURE BACTERIA STRAINS, YOUR SUCCESSOR CUT OFF MY FUNDS



I HAD TO INVENT A BOGUS PHARMACEUTICAL FIRM, CISCO-HERNANDEZ INC., ORDER MY OWN DICARNATHAN SAMPLES FROM THE UNIVERSITY, THEN TRY TO STEAL THE DRUG OFF THE TRAINS!

WHO IS CISCO-HERNANDEZ?

YOU JUST MET THEM! THE LAST OF MY... "OUTLAW GANG!"



BUT, BILL, I'VE FINALLY GOT IT, THE SERUM! IT CAN CURE EVERY PLAGUE CASE IN HAITI... IN THE WORLD!

FANTASTIC! BUT... HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS DOWN HERE?



I HEARD YOU WERE WORKING ON A BOOK.

THE TRUTH IS, AL, I'VE BEEN DRYING OUT ON BOOZE! I DON'T EVEN HAVE A SUBJECT TO WRITE ABOUT.



SUDDENLY... THERE IS THE SOUND OF MOVEMENT IN THE UNDERBRUSH. THE FOUR MEN TENSE, NOT KNOWING WHAT IS TO COME NEXT!



OH, HENRY! WE'RE ALL DEAD MEN NOW!



MEANWHILE... WITHIN A LOCKED CELL ABOARD THE MYSTERIOUS FLYING MACHINE, THE MASTER OF TIME AND TWO TIMELESS MASTERS OF FICTION WORRY OVER THEIR OWN UNEARTHLY PREDICAMENT!

AL JENNINGS, IS DOWN THERE WITH AN UNTESTED SERUM, IT COULD BE THE UNIVERSAL CURE TO THE PLAGUE WHICH IS RAVAGING HAITI.

THE NATIVES ARE BUTCHERING WHITES THINKING THEY'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PLAGUE! AND WE ARE PRISONERS OF A CRAZY MAN FROM OUTER SPACE WHO THINKS HE CAN END EARTH'S WARS BY MAKING MORE WAR ON OUR ARMIES!

WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, AND THE ONLY WAY OUT I SEE IS TO BREAK OUT! YOU GUYS WITH ME?

NO! NOT WITHOUT MY BROTHER!

WE'RE WITH YOU, OLD MAN! RIGHT, JULES?





SEÑOR AL! SEÑOR
PORTER! RUN! QUEEKKLY!
I WEEEL TRY TO HOLD
THE SAVAGES AT
BAY!

THANKS, KID! I'LL
TRY TO GET PORTER
TO SAFETY!

OH,
HENRY!!
WE'LL
NEVER
GET OFF
THIS
ISLAND
ALIVE!

COME ON, WILLIAM! THE KID
IS GOOD WITH THAT GUN! WE
MAY HAVE A CHANCE, YET!

BUT, SUDDENLY FROM
BEHIND THEM, A DARK,
OMINOUS SHAPE STEPS
MENACINGLY FROM
THE JUNGLE!

AL!
WATCH
OUT!

A SHAPE WHOSE WEAPON CARESSES THE
BROW OF THE TRAIN-ROBBING SCIENTIST!

UGHHN!

RUN, PORTER! GET
INTO THE JUNGLE! HIDE
THERE! THEY WON'T FIND
YOU!

BDAM!

BEFORE THE PROFESSOR CAN MOVE, THREE MORE DARKSOME WARRIORS LUNGE SILENTLY UPON HIM!



SUDDENLY... FROM THE DENSE JUNGLE COMES THE SOUND OF A MAN... RUNNING FOR HIS LIFE!

SEÑOR JENNINGS! IT'S ME... PONCHO!

I AMOST DEED NOT ESCAPE WHEN THAT SAVAGE STEPPED ON MY HAND!

HERNANDEZ! I'M GLAD YOU'RE SAFE, MY FRIEND! I-I--!

SEÑOR JENNINGS, ARE YOU OKAY? YOU LOOK SEEK!

I... I'LL BE ALL RIGHT, PONCHO! JUST... JUST A LITTLE DRAINED FROM ALL THE EXCITEMENT!

COME ON, WE'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM HERE BEFORE THE NATIVES CATCH UP WITH US!

WHILE ABOARD THE FLYING DRAGON...

I'VE GOT A FEELING THE BRIDGE IS UP THERE, GENTLEMEN! GET READY! WE'RE ABOUT TO PULL OFF THE WORLD'S FIRST SKYJACKING!

RIGHT YOU ARE, MATE!

NO! I THINK NOT, SIR!

I UNDERSTAND, MISTER VERNE! I WISH I COULD HELP YOU, SIR, BUT ROBAR MUST BE STOPPED AT ALL COSTS.

NOT TO WORRY, SON! I'LL BE WITH HIM! AND I WAS PERSONALLY TRAINED IN SITUATIONS OF THIS TYPE BY HOLMES HIMSELF, YOU KNOW!

I WISH YOU WOULDN'T BRING UP HOLMES AROUND OTHER PEOPLE, ARTHUR! IT'S A BIT EMBARRASSING!

LOOK! YOU OBVIOUSLY KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, MISTER ROOK, BUT ALL I KNOW IS, I'VE GOT TO FIND MY BROTHER AND GET HIM OUT OF HERE!

WELL, ONE THING HOLMES TAUGHT ME WAS TO TRUST MY SENSE OF DIRECTION, AND IT TELLS ME THAT YOUR BROTHER IS DOWN THIS DINGY CORRIDOR, MY FRIEND!



*SEE LAST ISSUE!





SIMULTANEOUSLY...IN THE WORLD OF THE PRESENT,
AN AGING GUNFIGHTER AND A MISBEGOTTEN
MANSERVANT LISTEN AS ANCIENT ALIEN ENGINES
WHINE TO LIFE.





MINGLING WITH THE SCENT OF BURNING VEGETATION IS THE PUNGENT ODOR OF CARBONIZED HUMAN FLESH! THE MURDEROUS FLAMES INSTANTLY SNUFF THE LIFE FROM A HANDFUL OF HAITIAN WARRIORS... WHILE THERE ARE THOSE FORTUNATE TO ESCAPE WITH THEIR LIVES!

AND AS THE INFERNO RAGES ACROSS THE JUNGLE FLOOR, THE KILLING FLAMES LAP HUNGRILY AT THE METAL OBELISK! THE ORNATE TIME MACHINE, THOUGH SEEMINGLY UNHARMED, BECOMES LIKE A HELLISH OVEN TO THOSE UNFORTUNATE SOULS ENSCONCED WITHIN!



WHILE
WITHIN
ROBAR'S
DEADLY
WAR-
MACHINE

YOU'RE A TRUE MAN
OF PEACE, AREN'T YOU,
ROBAR? JUST LIKE
EARTH'S MEN OF
PEACE. IF YOUR ADVER-
SARIES DON'T LAY
DOWN THEIR SWORDS,
YOU BUTCHER THEM!

YOU! WHO
ARE YOU,
VERMIN, TO
JUDGE ME,
YOUR
MASTER!

LIVES MUST BE
SACRIFICED TO ASSURE
PEACE! IT IS EVEN MORE
PLEASING TO ME IF THE
LIVES ARE THOSE OF
WOULD-BE-KILLERS AND
WARRIORS LIKE YOUR-
SELF, EARTHMAN!

I WILL TAKE GREAT
PLEASURE IN KILLING
YOU!

GOOD HEAVENS,
MAN! WH-WHAT ARE
YOU DOING TO YOUR
FACE?

SIMPLY, SIR ARTHUR...
REMOVING IT!

HOLMES!! GOOD
GOD! IT'S SHERLOCK
HOLMES!

BY JOVE!
THEN IT'S
TRUE!
HOLMES IS
REAL!

WHOM ELSE
DID YOU EXPECT,
OLD FRIEND?

FRIGHTFULLY
GLAD TO SEE YOU,
OLD GRAPe! I DON'T
KNOW HOW YOU GOT
ABOARD THIS DEVIL
SHIP...BUT I KNOW
YOU HAVE A PLAN
TO GET US OFF!

TRUE! AND IT IS A
PLAN I MUST IMPL-
MENT HURRIEDLY! I'M
AFRAID YOU AND YOUR
FRIEND WERE A BIT
CARELESS IN ESCAPING
YOUR CELL...

GADS!

...YOU SEEM TO
HAVE SET THE SHIP
AFIRE!

VERNE, YOUR BROTHER IS IN HERE.
HE IS STILL SUFFERING FROM THE EFFECTS
OF ROBAR'S VIRUS. BUT THERE IS A SERUM,
AS I UNDERSTAND IT, WHICH WILL NO
DOUBT BE BENEFICIAL TO HIM, BELOW!

THEN WHY ARE WE
WASTING VALUABLE TIME,
SIR? LET US GET MY
BROTHER TO THIS
MIRACULOUS SERUM,
AT ONCE!





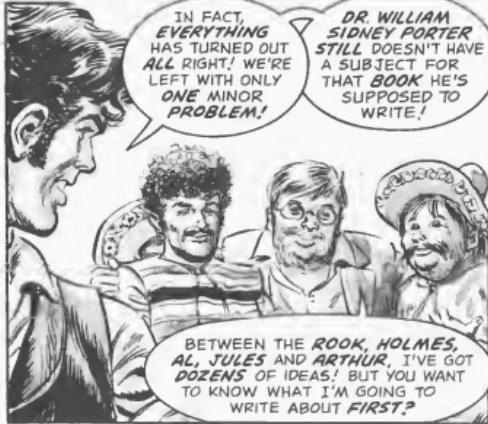


AS THE DUST, DEBRIS, SMOKE AND FLAMES OF THE EXPLOSION SLOWLY DIE...CAUTIOUS FIGURES Emerge FROM THE JUNGLE TO GLIMPSE THE SHATTERED DREAMS OF **ROBAR** THE WOULD-BE CONQUEROR!



SOMETIME LATER, AFTER SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE, SHERLOCK HOLMES AND JULES VERNE HAVE SEEN AL JENNINGS' MIRACULOUS SERUM ADMINISTERED TO THE YOUNG VERNE, THEY DEPART THE BATTLE-SCARRED ISLAND FOR THE PEACEFUL SHORES OF HER MAJESTY'S GOLDEN ISLES.

YOU DID IT, AL. THE PLAGUE IS ALREADY BREAKING, AND SOON THE WORLD WILL BENEFIT FROM YOUR RESEARCH.



I'M GOING TO WRITE ABOUT THE NAME-SAKES OF THE BOGUS CISCO-HERNANDEZ PHARMECEUTICAL FIRM! I AM GOING TO TITLE IT, "THE ADVENTURES OF THE CISCO KID!"



WARREN MAGAZINES

THE NEW AGE OF ILLUSTRATED EPIC ADVENTURE IS READY FOR DELIVERY NOW!



VAMPIRELLA #92: Vampirella battles the ultimate evil as her new roommate, Crissle Collins stands revealed as a shape changing demoness! Also Bruce Jones and Aureleon in "That Future Long Ago!" Also Will Richardson and Jose Ortiz in "Second Coming!"



1994 #15: Cover to cover sex, sin and sensuality! Sizzle with Spearchucker Spade, the hottest private dick in the universe, with Richardson and Nino! Plus Coming Out Party, The Missionary, The Starfire Saga, Baby Makes Three and 1894. See why 1994 is the best!



ERIE #117: A spectacular issue containing the conclusion to "Caglioni; The City of Fire." Also the conclusion to the incredible saga of Bruce Bloodfarter in "The Jalopy Scam!" Plus the conclusion of the mind boggling "Haxtur." All this and more!



FAMOUS MONSTERS #169: The most provocative magazine in all filmdom unleashes The Hears, Close Encounters of A Weird Kind, Shape of Things to Come, Lord of the Sunsword, Alien on Earth, and more! All this plus our usual feature packed departments to tantalize you!



CREEPY #123: Included are such outstanding artists as Alex Toth in "Kiss of the Plague", Mayarik and Nebres in "Always Leave 'Em Laughing" and such stellar writers as Doug Moench, Michael Fleischer, Nicola Cuti and much more in this spectacular issue!

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THE GIRL WAS A PRINCESS, THE DAUGHTER OF KING OLAF AND QUEEN SYBIL. THE YOUTH WAS BUT THE SON OF A WOODSMAN...A MAN WITH A SECRET, A HIDDEN PAST, AND AN OMINOUS, YET GLORIOUS FUTURE!



TOGETHER THEY JOURNEYED THROUGH THE DANGEROUS HIGHLANDS TOWARDS THE FABLED ROYAL CITY OF THORWALD. IT WAS NOT, HOWEVER, A JOURNEY DEVOID OF DANGERS!

BY THE GODS! ONE-EYED GIANTS! THEY ARE SURROUNDING US!

VIKING PRINCE







THE DWARF WATCHED IN UTTER TERROR AS THE YOUTH HURLED HEADLONG INTO THE RIVER, SO VERY FAR BELOW! HE KNEW THAT NO ONE COULD SURVIVE SUCH A FALL. AND IN THE HORROR OF THE MOMENT, HE FORGOT COMPLETELY ABOUT HIS OWN SURVIVAL.



THE INSTINCTS FOR SELF-PRESERVATION CAME FLOODING BACK TO HIM, HOWEVER, THE MOMENT HE FELT THE MAMMOTH HAND SQUEEZING THE LIFE FROM HIS BODY!



THE DWARF KNEW THAT HIS PLIGHT WAS ALMOST IF NOT MORE DIRE THAN THAT OF HIS FALLEN COMPANION.



MEANWHILE, FREYJA, THE VIKING PRINCESS, CONTINUED HER MAD RUSH TO ESCAPE THE DEADLY GIANTS...



...UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE!



TAKING FIRM HOLD OF THE STRUGGLING PRINCESS, THE GIANT TRAMPLED EVERYTHING IN HIS PATH IN HIS SINGLE-MINDED QUEST TO REJOIN HIS BROTHERS.



SOON THE TOWERING MAN-BEASTS WERE AGAIN ASSEMBLED AND A SMALL FIGURE, STANDING ATOP A NEARBY PRECIPICE, APPEARED AND SUMMONED THEM!



WELL DONE, MY CHILDREN. OLAF'S DAUGHTER IS AT LAST IN MY HANDS. THIS TIME YOU'VE BROUGHT ME A PRICELESS BOOTY.



FOLLOWING THE SINISTER LITTLE MAN'S ORDERS, THE GIANTS DUMBLY CARRIED THE PRINCESS AND THE DWARF INTO A DARK, UNDERGROUND CAVITY.



IT HAS BEEN SO LONG, BUT AT LAST REVENGE IS WITHIN MY GRASP.



I WILL MAKE OLD OLAF A PRESENT OF HIS DAUGHTER'S CORPSE. HE WILL BE SORRY THEN THAT HE EVER CROSSED SARAVEG THE WIZARD!

WITHIN THE TREACHEROUS CAVE, THE PRINCESS AND HER DWARFISH COMPANION WERE BOUND TO STAKES STUCK DEEP WITHIN THE HARD EARTH.



SAMPSON... I... I'M FRIGHTENED. SIGFRID IS DEAD AND WE'RE IN THE HANDS OF THESE GHOULS.

DON'T GIVE UP HOPE, FREYJA. UNTIL THE LAST BREATH LEAVES YOUR BODY!

HOURS PASSED. FINALLY, THE GIANTS SLEPT AND THE SINISTER MAGICIAN CREST FROM THE SHADOWS REVEALING HIMSELF TO HIS HELPLESS CAPTIVES.

THE FULL MOON IS AT ITS ZENITH. THE TIME FOR THE SACRIFICE HAS COME!

TODAY IS A GREAT DAY FOR ME, PRINCESS! FOR SOON YOU WILL BE DEAD AND I WILL HAVE MY LONG-AWAITED REVENGE UPON YOUR FATHER!



AND YET, DID THE VALIANT SIGFRID DIE? WAS HE TRULY CRUSHED UPON THE JAGGED ROCKS WHICH JUTTED FROM THE CHURNING WATERS? DID WATER FILL HIS LUNGS AS HIS BATTERED BODY WAS SWEEP AWAY WITH THE CURRENT?



THE YOUTH WAS COLD, NUMBED FROM HIS FALL. HIS BODY ACHED WITH PAIN HE HAD NEVER BEFORE FELT! WORSE, SHEER TERROR INCHED ITS WAY INTO HIS FLESH AS HE SAW A SINISTER BLACK SHAPE SLITHERING THROUGH THE DEPTHS TOWARDS HIM!





THE RIVER BEAST HOWLED WITH PAIN AND RAGE, AS THE YOUTH'S BITTER WOODAXE SUNK DEEP INTO ITS SKULL! IT LURCHED UPWARDS, BACKWARDS, TRYING DESPERATELY, VAINLY TO SHAKE LOOSE THE PAIN-RENDING CREATURE ON ITS BACK!

AGAIN AND AGAIN IT BURST FROM THE WATER IN ANGRY, INSANE CON-TORTIONS!



BUT THE MAN WAS LIKE A HUMAN VICE, CLAMPED TIGHTLY TO ITS BODY, END-LESSLY INFILCTING DAMNABLE, BONE-WRENCHING PAIN!

WITH ONE MIGHTY HEAVE, THE BEAST SHOOK FREE ITS TOR-MENTOR...



...AND SIGFRID SAILED LIKE A HUMAN STONE ONTO THE SOFT, REED-STREWN RIVERBANK!





THE SNAKE, INJURED AND SLUGGISH, KNEW THAT ITS ASSAILANT WAS HIDING WITHIN THE DENSE SHORE COVERING. PATIENTLY, IT WAITED FOR THE MAN TO REVEAL HIMSELF!

THE WOODSMAN'S SON REALIZED THAT HIS SITUATION WAS FAR FROM ENVIOUS! THE SNAKE BLOCKED HIS ESCAPE INTO THE WATERWAY, WHILE BEHIND HIM, A SHEER ROCK CLIFF LOOMED STRAIGHT UPWARDS!



SIGFRID MADE HIS DECISION QUICKLY. HE SILENTLY EASED HIS WAY BENEATH THE WATERS AND INTO THE DARK HOLE!



GLIDING UNDERWATER AND BREATHING ONLY OCCASSIONALLY IN THE HOLLOWES ABOVE THE SURFACE, THE YOUNG NORSEMAN SWAM AS RAPIDLY AS HE COULD!



AFTER SWIMMING FOR WHAT SEEMED LIKE HOURS, THE LAD EMERGED, GULPING HUNGRILY FOR AIR, INTO A CAVERN WHICH SEEMED LIGHTER THAN THE OTHERS!



LIGHT! THERE'S LIGHT JUST AHEAD, PRAISE ODIN! I THOUGHT FOR CERTAIN I WOULD HAVE TO GO BACK AND FACE THAT GIANT SNAKE ONCE AGAIN!



AT LAST THE UNDERWATER TUNNEL OPENED INTO A SPRAWLING CAVERN! SIGFRID, EXHAUSTED BY HIS LONG SWIM, COLLAPSED UPON THE BOULDERS WHICH LINED THE SHORE!



THE LIGHT TO WHICH HE HAD BEEN DRAWN LIKE A MOTH LIE JUST ABOVE HIS HEAD.



AMAZED AT THE SIGHT OF HIS HELPLESS COMPANIONS, THE YOUNG VIKING WARRIOR LOST NOT A SECOND. HE NOTICED THE ROPE WHICH HUNG LIMPLY BEFORE HIM. OBVIOUSLY AN INSTRUMENT OF TORTURE IN THIS STRANGE, SINISTER CAVERN!



FROM THE NARROW OPENING, HE COULD HEAR A STRANGE, DISENCHANTED VOICE. WHILE HE COULD NOT MAKE OUT THE WORDS, HE COULD TELL THAT THE TONE WAS ONE OF ANGER!



THIS IS JUST WHAT I NEED!



THE GODS HAVE GUIDED MY PATH! IT IS SAMPSON AND FREYJA!



THAT MADMAN IS ABOUT TO KILL THEM!



IF I AM GOING TO DIE, THEN IT IS AS THE GODS HAVE DECREED! I WILL JOIN POOR SIGFRID IN VALHALLA!

YET, THE GIRL WAS NOT TO DIE! AT LEAST NOT **HERE!** NOT **NOW!** SHE OPENED HER EYES AND WITNESSED...A **MIRACLE!**



THE DIMINUTIVE WARRIOR, **SAMPSON**, SAW IT TOO! AND HE UNDERSTOOD INSTANTLY THAT THE **SPIRITS** OF THE DEAD WERE INTERVENING TO **SAVE** HIS WORTHLESS LIFE!



N-NOOO! IT... IT CANNOT BE!



YET, IT IS MURDERER! **SIGFRID**, SON OF **ERIC** THE WOODSMAN, DECREES...

... YOU WILL TAKE NO MORE LIVES THIS DAY!

AEEEEEEEEE!



THE MAD MAGICIAN **LEAPED** ACROSS THE CAVERN, SMASHING HIS HEAD SQUARELY AGAINST THE SOLID ROCK WALL! INSTANTLY, HE WAS RENDERED UNCONSCIOUS, AND QUICKLY, SIGFRID RELEASED HIS FRIENDS!

FREYJA! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

SIGFRID! WE THOUGHT YOU'VE PERISHED! WE'VE BEEN SO FRIGHTENED!

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU ALIVE, BOY!

YES! ALIVE FOR NOW! BUT WE WON'T BE FOR LONG, UNLESS WE GET AWAY FROM THIS HORRID PLACE! AND QUICKLY!

THE CYCLOPS CREATURES ARE EVERYWHERE!





CURIOUSLY, THE GIANTS REMAINED ASLEEP IN SPITE OF THE TURMOIL, ALLOWING THE YOUNG ADVENTURERS TO ESCAPE INTO THE NIGHT!

YET, THERE WAS ONE WHO WOULD NOT REMAIN ASLEEP... SARAVEG, THE SORCERER!



THE MAD MAGICIAN PULLED A WOODEN PIPE FROM HIS TOGA QUICKLY LOOSING A SHRILL ALMOST HYPNOTIC ALARM!



THE GIANTS BOLTED AWAKE INSTANTANEOUSLY...



THE COMPANIONS RAN FROM THE CAVERN AS RAPIDLY AS THEY COULD, STRIVING TO PUT DISTANCE BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND THE KILLER GIANTS!



BY ODIN'S BEARD!
THE GIANTS! THEY'RE
BEHIND US!



YET, FATE TENDS
TO PLAY CRUEL
TRICKS...
ESPECIALLY UPON
THE INNOCENT!

THANKS TO THEIR LONG LEGS,
THE MAMMOTH MAN-CREATURES
HAD OVERTAKEN SIGFRID AND
HIS FRIENDS RAPIDLY!



HURRY,
SAMPSON! UP
THIS HILL! I
HAVE A PLAN!



I CAN
HOLD THEM
OFF HERE,
LITTLE
FRIEND!
BUT YOU'VE
GOT TO
TAKE
FREYJA TO
THORNWALD
AS QUICKLY
AS YOU
CAN!

NO, SIGFRID! WE
WON'T LEAVE YOU! NOT
AGAIN! YOU CAN'T
FIGHT THOSE MONSTERS
ALONE!



I CAN... HERE!
NOW DON'T ARGUE,
GIRL! JUST GO!

IF I DON'T HOLD
THEM, WE'LL ALL BE
CAPTURED AGAIN! I
DON'T HAVE TO TELL
YOU WHAT THAT
MEANS!

PAINFUL AS IT IS,
SIGFRID IS RIGHT,
CHILD! MAY THE
GODS PROTECT
HIM!

THE PRINCESS AND THE TINY
WARRIOR FLED AS SIGFRID
PREPARED HIMSELF FOR
BATTLE... POSSIBLY TO THE
DEATH!

THEY'RE COMING!



IF MY IDEA
DOESN'T WORK,
IT'LL BE THE
LAST BRAIN-
STORM I'LL
EVER HAVE!



COLDLY WITH ALL
OF THE PENT-UP
ANGER IN HIS SOUL,
THE WARRIOR-YOUTH
LASHED OUT AT
A BLOCK OF NEAR-
BY BOULDERS.



THE GIANTS WERE
CAUGHT ALMOST
INSTANTANEOUSLY IN
THE DEVASTATING
avalanche WHICH
THUNDERED DOWN
UPON THEM!

FOR THE MOMENT, THE BLOOD-LUSTING BRUTES HAD BEEN HALTED! YET, THERE WERE FAR TOO MANY OF THEM! FAR TOO MANY FOR ALL TO BE STOPPED PERMANENTLY BY A MERE MAN-MADE ROCKSLIDE!



SLOWLY, THE DUST-STREWN DEBRIS SETTLED, AND THE VALIANT WOODSMAN'S SON KNEW THAT HIS FIGHT WAS FAR FROM BEING OVER!



COME, YOU BUGGERING WRETCHES! YOU'LL HAVE MY FRIENDS OVER MY LIFELESS BODY!



AND I'LL NOT CHEAPLY GIVE UP MY FINAL BREATH!



RAW, BLOOD-BURSTING RAGE SURGED THROUGH THE MAN-BEASTS! WHO WAS THIS INSIGNIFICANT GNAT TO THWART THEIR CONSUMATE POWER?



YET, THE ENDURANCE OF A MERE HUMAN IS NOT LIMITLESS! AS FATIGUE SLOWED HIS SPEED, AN ANGRY GIANT LUNGED FOR SIGFRID, SQUASHING HIM IN HIS SUPER-HUMAN GRASP!



COME, GRUESOME! YOUR HEAD WILL BE NEXT!



THE FURY OF THE GIANTS WAS NO LESS THAN THAT OF THE BRAVE WOODSMAN'S SON, HOWEVER! HIS BLADE SLICED THE AIR, AGAIN AND AGAIN, CUTTING DEEPLY INTO THE FLESH OF THE MAN-MONSTERS, DRAWING BLOOD AS HE HELD THEM AT BAY!

IN DESPERATION THE WARRIOR-YOUTH GRIPPED THE GIANT'S HAIR, MUSTERING EVERY OUNCE OF HIS FAILING STRENGTH, HE CRUSHED THE FEATURES OF THE FOUL-SMELLING MONSTROSITY!



AEEEEE!

THERE ARE TOO
MANY OF THEM! I
CAN NOT FIGHT THEM
ALL WITHOUT A
WEAPON!

SIGFRID LEAPT WITH SPEED BORNE
DESPERATION, REACHING FOR HIS
FALLEN SWORD!

NOW I THINK
IT IS TIME FOR ME
TO VANISH!

YET, BEFORE THE YOUTH
COULD TURN AWAY, AN
ANGRY GIANT HURLED
HIS DEADLY CLUB!

KRA-AH!

THOR'S
BEARD! THAT
WAS TOO CLOSE
FOR COMFORT!

PERHAPS I CAN
USE IT AGAIN! TO
ESCAPE!

I THINK I'VE
LOST THEM! FOR
ONCE, BEING SMALL
HAS BEEN TO MY
BENEFIT!

NOW IF I CAN
REJOIN SAMPSON
AND FREYJA... IF
THEY ARE SAFE!

THIS CREVICE
HAS SAVED MY
LIFE!

THE GIANTS TRIED TO
PURSUE THE FLEEING
MAN, BUT IT WAS HOPE-
LESS! THEY WERE MUCH
TOO LARGE! SIGFRID
SLIPPED AWAY FROM
THEM LIKE A TRICKY
MOUSE!

SIGFRID CONTINUED TO SCAMPER THROUGH THE NARROW STONE CREVICE! WHEN HE FELT HE HAD GONE FAR ENOUGH, HE **EMERGED** TO FIND...

...HOPELESSNESS IN THE FORM OF A DOZEN BLOOD-HUNGRY MONSTERS!



FOREBODING CLOUDS OF DOOM SWEPT ACROSS THE MIND OF THE WARRIOR YOUTH! ESCAPING THE MONSTER-MEN WOULD NOT BE EASY! YET, AS HE TURNED TO CREEP AWAY, SIGFRID SAW THAT THE GIANTS WERE NOW THE LEAST OF HIS WORRIES!



THE CREATURE HISSED AT SIGFRID AND THE YOUTH COULD SMELL THE HIDEOUS STENCH OF DEATH UPON ITS DECAYING INCISORS!



THEN HE SAW THE GARGANTUAN REPTILE **TENSE** AND KNEW THAT WAS ABOUT TO SPRING!



IN THAT TERRIBLE, ETERNAL INSTANT, THE YOUTH UNDERSTOOD THAT BUT A THIN SHAFT OF STEEL STOOD BETWEEN HIMSELF AND INSTANT OBLIVION!



IN THROES OF DESPERATION, SIGFRID LEAPED AWAY FROM THE MONSTER, BUT IN SO DOING REALIZED THE FUTILITY OF HIS ACTIONS!



HE COULD NEVER OUT-RUN THE LIZARD! HIS ONLY HOPE OF SURVIVAL WAS TO STAND HIS GROUND...AND FIGHT!

COME, SCALY ONE!

I WEARY OF BEING PURSUED BY MINDLESS PREDATORS WHO WISH ONLY TO FILL THEIR EMPTY GULLET WITH MY FLESH!

THIS DAY, ONE OF US WILL PASS AMONG THE SPIRITS?!



THE REPTILE BEAST HOWLED IN PAIN-LADEN RAGE! SIGFRID LUNGED ONCE! HIS SWORD FOUND THE LIZARD'S PULSING **HEART**!

THE MONSTER WAS QUICKLY STILLED!



YET, ITS HIDEOUS **DEATHCRY** HAD NOT GONE **UNNOTICED**! LONG, OMINOUS SHADOWS SLOWLY ENCIRCLED THE VIKING PRINCE. SIGFRID'S **HEART SANK** AS HE REALIZED THAT HE HAD BEEN FOUND!



TREACHEROUSLY, YET CAUTIOUSLY, THE GIANTS **ADVANCED** UPON HIM, WARY OF THIS LITTLE GNAT WHOSE SLING WAS TOO DEADLY!

THE MAN-BEAST RAISED HIS WEAPON, READY TO DELIVER THE **DEATHBLOW**!



SUDDENLY, THE HEAVENS HISSED IN ANGER! A HUNDRED ARROWS SCREAMED THROUGH THE AIR! THE CYCLOPS-BEASTS HOWLED WITH THE AGONY OF THE DOOMED!



ASTONISHED, THE YOUNG WARRIOR WONDERED...COULD IT BE THE GREAT NORSE GODS THEMSELVES, DESCENDING FROM VALHALLA TO PROTECT HIM?

NO! IT WAS SAMPSON! AND FREYJA! AND KING OLAF HIMSELF... CHARGING ON ANGRY STEEDS AT THE HEAD OF A GREAT NORSE ARMY!

THEY THUNDERED THROUGH THE MOUNTAIN PASS, GLORIOUS IN THEIR FURY, THEIR BLADES SINGING THE SWEET SONG OF VENGEANCE!

AT THEM, MY WARRIORS!
IN FOR THE KILL! SAVE THE
SAVIOR OF MY DAUGHTER!



DAZED, NUMBED WITH DISBELIEF, SIGFRID COULD NOT BELIEVE HIS EYES! THE DAY WAS ONE OF WONDER INDEED! IT WAS AS IF THE EARTH ITSELF HAS OPENED AND SPIT FORTH A LEGION OF VALIANT WARRIORS!

NOT IF THEY HAD FALLEN FROM VALHALLA COULD THEY HAVE COME AT A MORE OPPORTUNE MOMENT!

THE BATTLE RAGED SAVAGELY! THE ENRAGED GIANTS TORE THROUGH THE HEROIC VIKING HORSEMAN! HUMAN BLOOD Oozed onto the BATTLEFIELD! YET, EQUAL AMOUNTS OF GIANT BLOOD MINGLED WITH THAT OF THEIR ENEMIES!



GIANT AFTER GIANT FELL TO
THE STEEL OF
THE MIGHTY
NORSE
WARRIOR!

SIGFRID! COME,
BOY... LEST YOU ARE
CRUSHED BENEATH
THE DYING MONSTER
MEN!

SAMPSON!
NEVER HAVE I
BEEN SO GRATE-
FUL TO SEE A
FRIEND!

WE WOULD
HAVE COME
SOONER, LAD.
BUT YOU KNOW
HOW SLOW
THESE NORSE-
MEN CAN BE!

THESE WARRIOR...!
WHO ARE THEY, MY
FRIEND? I OWE THEM
A DEBT I MAY NEVER
BE ABLE TO REPAY!

FREYJA IS HIS
DAUGHTER, PRINCESS
OF THORWALD... CHILD
OF YOUR TRUE MOTHER'S
WOMB!

SAMPSON'S WORDS CRUSHED SIGFRID LIKE THE
BLOW OF A HEAVY AXE! ONCE MORE, CRUEL FATE
HAD TRANSFORMED A GLORIOUS VICTORY INTO
BITTER DEFEAT!

HE KNEW NOT WHAT HE
WOULD DO NOW! HE KNEW
ONLY THAT THE EMOTIONS HE
HAD BEGIN TO FEEL FOR
THE BEAUTIFUL
FREYJA WERE VILE,
PERVERSE... AND
FORBIDDEN!

HOW COULD HE FEEL PHYSICAL LOVE FOR A SISTER
HE HAD NEVER KNOWN? HOW COULD HE FEEL HATE
FOR A MAN TO WHOM HE OWED HIS LIFE?

SIGFRID WAS CONFUSED! JUSTLY SO! FOR DES-
TINY HAD BEEN CRUEL AND SADISTIC TO THIS
VALIANT NOBLE-BLOODED YOUTH!

BLACK, BILLOWING CLOUDS, LAPEN WITH THE SICKEN-
ING STENCH OF BURNING HUMAN
FLESH, ARCHED ACROSS THE EBON
SKY, DECRYING FOR ALL TO SEE...
THE END OF HUMANKIND!

VOLTAR

FLAMES, BIRTHED IN BOILING OIL, NURSED ON THE BODIES OF HELPLESS MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN, LAPPED HUNGRILY AT THE CASTLE TURRETS, WHILE GOBLINS, HORDES OF GIBBERING, SCREECHING, BLOOD-LETTING REPTILE-WARRIORS, STORMED THE FORTRESS WALLS, SLAYING, BUTCHERING, MUTILATING ALL BEFORE THEM!

THEY WERE BUT THE FIRST CURSE OF THE SEVEN-PRO- PHESED PLAGUES OF THE ENDTIME! YET, THEY HAD FULFILLED THEIR DESTINY TOO WELL! THERE WOULD BE NO SURVIVING HUMANS TO WITNESS THE SIX PLAGUES WHICH YET REMAINED!

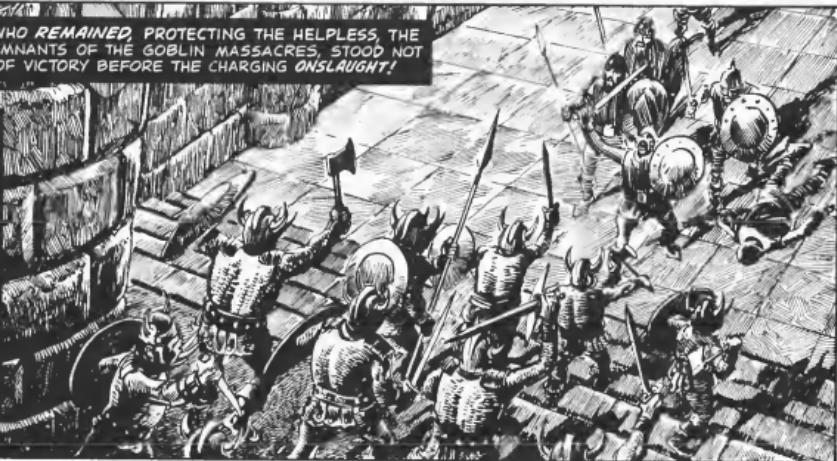
ALFREDO P. ALCALA

THE HUMAN WARRIORS HAD FOUGHT BRAVELY! YET, THE GOBLIN HORDES OF THE DARK NETHERWORLD HAD BEEN TOO FIERCE... TOO NUMEROUS! THE BATTLEFIELDS WERE STREWN WITH THE ROTTING REMAINS OF ELYSIUM'S FINEST WARRIORS!



THOSE FEW WHO REMAINED, PROTECTING THE HELPLESS, THE BATTERED REMNANTS OF THE GOBLIN MASSACRE, STOOD NOT A HOPE OF VICTORY BEFORE THE CHARGING ONSLAUGHT!

ALL
REALIZED
THIS WAS
HUMANKIND'S
FINAL
MOMENT...
WHEN THE
GLORIOUS
PROMISE OF
FUTURE
GENERATIONS
WOULD FOR-
EVER BE
CRUSHED BY
THE BLOOD-
HUNGRY
DEMONS OF
MAGOG!



NONE WOULD SURVIVE! NOT WARRIOR, NOR WOMAN, NOR CHILD! BODIES WERE BATTERED, BROKEN, BUTCHERED BY THE MAD, GIBBERING ASSASSINS! LAST TO FALL, MUTILATED BRUTALLY BY WARAXES OF THE GOBLIN CHIEF-
TAINS, WAS ANTOCHUS, WARRIOR-KING OF THE ONCE GOLDEN LAND OF ELYSIUM!



THE TERRIBLE VISION PASSED AS SUDDENLY AS IT HAD BEGIN! THE WARRIOR, WEAKENED, NUMBED BY RAGING FEVERS, LEAPED UNSTEADILY TO HIS FEET, SCREAMING, PLEADING FOR THE NIGHTMARISH, ALL-TOO-REAL FEVER DREAMS TO BE QUELLED!





THE SCROLLS...!
THEY ARE WRITTEN
IN A TONGUE I HAVE
NEVER BEFORE
SEEN!

THE WORDS...
ARE ALIEN TO
ME...MEAN-
INGLESS!

THE SACRED
WRITINGS OF THE
ESSENES...THEIR
TEACHINGS...THEY
WERE MY FINAL
HOPE!

NOW...NOW
NOTHING
CAN SAVE
ME! I...I WILL
DIE...HERE...
WRITHING LIKE
A DISEASE-
RIDDEN
MAGGOT IN
THE DARK-
NESS!

SUDDENLY, FROM DEEP WITHIN THE BOWELS OF THE ONCE-SACRED CAVERNS, THERE WAS MOVEMENT! HIS SENSES DULLED BY THE KILLING SICKNESS, VOLTAR DID NOT HEAR THE LITHE FIGURE APPROACHING UNTIL IT WAS NEARLY UPON HIM! WEAKLY, HE TURNED TO SEE THE BEAUTIFIC FEATURES... THE SPOTLESS WHITE ROBES!

AND VOLTAR KNEW, THIS WAS THE SAVIOR FOR WHOM HE HAD LONG SOUGHT!

YOU LOOK ILL,
WARRIOR! PERHAPS
I CAN VANQUISH
YOUR PAIN!

C-CAN
IT BE?

FROM NOWHERE, A GLISTENING STEEL WARSWORD APPEARED IN THE SAVIOR'S HANDS! HIS SAINTLY SMILE TWISTED INTO THE LEER OF A DEMON...

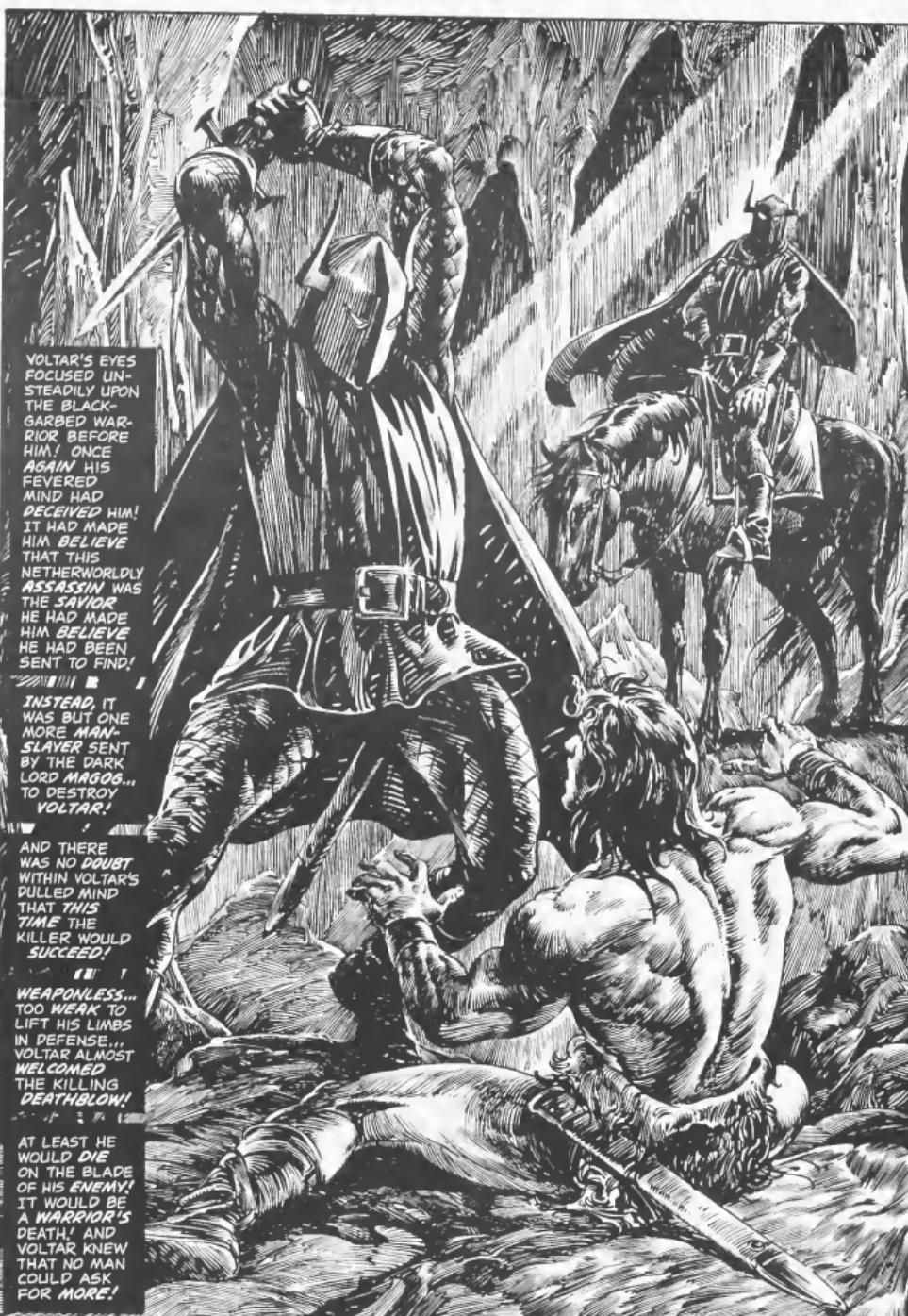
...AND VOLTAR
UNDERSTOOD
THAT THIS
WAS YET
ANOTHER
FEVERED
DELUSION
OF HIS
TORMENTED
MIND!

LET ME END
YOUR SUFFERING
FOREVER, WARRIOR-
GENERAL!

YET, DO SPECTRES HAVE SUBSTANCE? DO DELUSIONS
CAST SHADOWS? NO! THIS THING... THIS KILLER
ENTITY BEFORE HIM WAS NO MERE FEVER DREAM!

IT WAS REAL!

AND IF IT WERE REAL, IT COULD BE BUT ONE
UNHOLY BEING!



VOLTAR'S EYES
FOCUSED UN-
STEADILY UPON
THE BLACK-
GARBED WARR-
IOR BEFORE
HIM! ONCE
AGAIN HIS
FEVERED
MIND HAD
DECEIVED HIM!
IT HAD MADE
HIM BELIEVE
THAT THIS
NETHERWORLDLY
ASSASSIN WAS
THE SAVIOR
HE HAD MADE
HIM BELIEVE
HE HAD BEEN
SENT TO FIND!

INSTEAD, IT
WAS BUT ONE
MORE MAN-
SLAYER SENT
BY THE DARK
LORD MAGOS...
TO DESTROY
VOLTAR!

AND THERE
WAS NO DOUBT
WITHIN VOLTAR'S
DULLED MIND
THAT THIS
TIME THE
KILLER WOULD
SUCCEED!

WEAPONLESS...
TOO WEAK TO
LIFT HIS LIMBS
IN DEFENSE...
VOLTAR ALMOST
WELCOMED
THE KILLING
DEATHBLOW!

AT LEAST HE
WOULD DIE
ON THE BLADE
OF HIS ENEMY!
IT WOULD BE
A WARRIOR'S
DEATH! AND
VOLTAR KNEW
THAT NO MAN
COULD ASK
FOR MORE!

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

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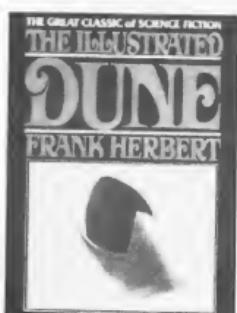
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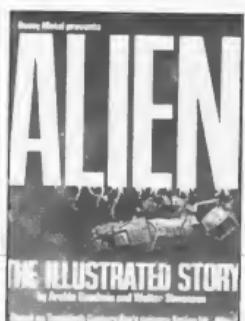
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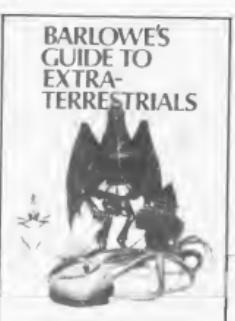
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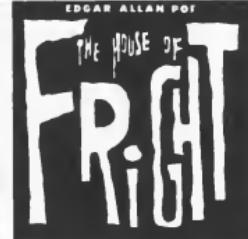
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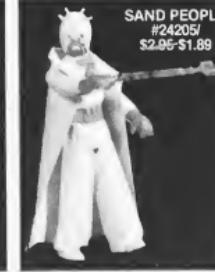
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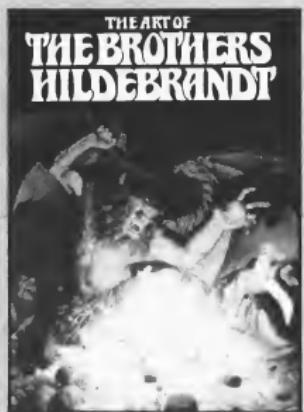
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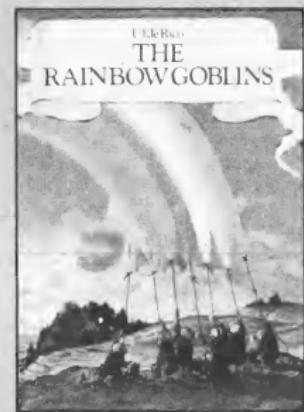
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ELECTRONIC GAME COMPUTER AND RADIO CONTROLLED SAND CRAWLER

STAR WARS ELECTRONIC ACTION BATTLE COMPUTER

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STAR WARS ELECTRONIC BATTLE COMMAND

An exciting new intergalactic electronic combat game which allows you to simulate the battle actions from Star Wars. From the simple to the complex, from one to three players, this new electronic game allows for any level of play. Simulate intersteller dogfights or simulate the elements of hyperspace action such as the landing on Bespin, being trapped in a black hole and having your force units drained. Then contend with the hidden wrinkles of hyperspace that can bounce you into other sectors of the universe! For hours of combat thrills play against your friends or the machine itself! Uses 6 AA batteries or a special adapter not included!

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Use the radio control box to help Jawas escape Stormtroopers.



Set up Jawas and R5-D4 at the "control" panels.



Elevator lifts R2-D2 and other STAR WARS figures into Sand Crawler.



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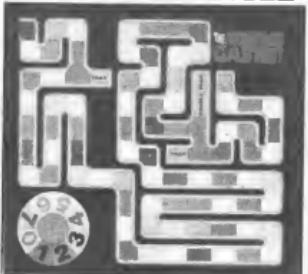
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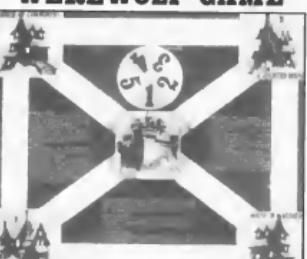
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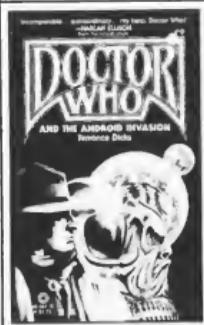
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CONAN

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Illustrated by Sanjulian

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WARRIOR'S BATTLE JACKET Super deluxe space jacket of some of your favorite T.V. characters in a ruggedly constructed light olive brown denim. Its unique styling and its 100% cotton denim durability make this the perfect family jacket for anywhere wear. Whether it's from the baseball game to the disco, or from the backyard to your own space fantasy, this jacket will get you there warmly and in style! Machine washable and dryable, comes with special patch, emblem, 2 insignia pins, care and handling information and

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